

debt. Currently, the federal government pays hundreds of billion of dollars in interest payments on the debt each year. This means we spend billions of dollars each year on exactly, nothing. At the end of the year we have nothing of substance to show for these expenditures. These expenditures do not provide better educations for our children, they do not make our nation safer, they do not further important medical research, they do not build new roads. They do nothing but pay the obligations created by the fiscal irresponsibility of those who came earlier. In the end, we need to ensure that we continue on the road to a balanced budget so that we can end the wasteful practice of making interest payments on the deficit.

However, Mr. President, opponents of a balanced budget amendment act like it is something extraordinary. In reality, a balanced budget amendment will only require the government to do what every American already has to do: balance their checkbook. It is simply a promise to the American people, and more importantly, to future generations of Americans, that the government will act responsibly.

Mr. President, thankfully the budget is currently balanced. However, there are no guarantees that it will stay as such. We could see dramatic changes in economic conditions. The drain on the government caused by the retirement of the Baby Boomers may exceed expectations. Future leaders may fall pray to the "general propensity . . . to shift the burden" that Alexander Hamilton wrote about so long ago. We need to establish guarantees for future generations. The balanced budget amendment is the best such mechanism available.●

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 39

At the request of Mr. STEVENS, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. CAMPBELL), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND), the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. BRYAN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) were added as cosponsors of S. 39, a bill to provide a national

medal for public safety officers who act with extraordinary valor above the call of duty, and for other purposes.

S. 51

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 51, a bill to reauthorize the Federal programs to prevent violence against women, and for other purposes.

S. 60

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 60, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide equitable treatment for contributions by employees to pension plans.

S. 74

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) were added as cosponsors of S. 74, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

S. 216

At the request of Mr. MOYNIHAN, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. NICKLES) were added as cosponsors of S. 216, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the limitation on the use of foreign tax credits under the alternative minimum tax.

S. 247

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 247, a bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to reform the copyright law with respect to satellite retransmissions of broadcast signals, and for other purposes.

S. 332

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 332, a bill to authorize the extension of nondiscriminatory treatment (normal trade relations treatment) to the products of Kyrgyzstan.

S. 376

At the request of Mr. BURNS, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. FRIST), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of S. 376, a bill to amend the Communications Satellite Act of 1962 to promote competition and privatization in satellite communications, and for other purposes.

S. 394

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS) were added

as cosponsors of S. 394, a bill to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to permit a State to register a Canadian pesticide for distribution and use within that State.

S. 409

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of S. 409, a bill to authorize qualified organizations to provide technical assistance and capacity building services to microenterprise development organizations and programs and to disadvantaged entrepreneurs using funds from the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 439

At the request of Mr. BRYAN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 439, a bill to amend the National Forest and Public Lands of Nevada Enhancement Act of 1988 to adjust the boundary of the Toiyabe National Forest, Nevada.

S. 443

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 443, a bill to regulate the sale of firearms at gun shows.

S. 472

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 472, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide certain medicare beneficiaries with an exemption to the financial limitations imposed on physical, speech-language pathology, and occupational therapy services under part B of the medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 505

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE), and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 505, a bill to give gifted and talented students the opportunity to develop their capabilities.

S. 531

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. 531, a bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Rosa Parks in recognition of her contributions to the Nation.

S. 541

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 541, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make certain changes related to payments for

graduate medical education under the medicare program.

S. 593

At the request of Mr. COVERDELL, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 593, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase maximum taxable income for the 15 percent rate bracket, to provide a partial exclusion from gross income for dividends and interest received by individuals, to provide a long-term capital gains deduction for individuals, to increase the traditional IRA contribution limit, and for other purposes.

S. 595

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 595, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a graduated response to shrinking domestic oil and gas production and surging foreign oil imports, and for other purposes.

S. 608

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) were added as cosponsors of S. 608, a bill to amend the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982.

S. 625

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 625, a bill to amend title 11, United States Code, and for other purposes.

S. 645

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 645, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to waive the oxygen content requirement for reformulated gasoline that results in no greater emissions of air pollutants than reformulated gasoline meeting the oxygen content requirement.

S. 660

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 660, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under part B of the medicare program of medical nutrition therapy services furnished by registered dietitians and nutrition professionals.

S. 661

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 661, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking minors across State lines in circumvention of laws requiring the involvement of parents in abortion decisions.

S. 662

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the names of the Senator from North Da-

kota (Mr. CONRAD) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) were added as cosponsors of S. 662, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide medical assistance for certain women screened and found to have breast or cervical cancer under a federally funded screening program.

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 662, *supra*.

S. 681

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 681, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act and Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require that group and individual health insurance coverage and group health plans provide coverage for a minimum hospital stay for mastectomies and lymph node dissections performed for the treatment of breast cancer.

S. 689

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 689, a bill to authorize appropriations for the United States Customs Service for fiscal years 2000 and 2001, and for other purposes.

S. 692

At the request of Mr. KYL, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Washington (Mr. GORTON), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. NICKLES), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. THURMOND), the Senator from Florida (Mr. MACK), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. COVERDELL), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM), and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) were added as cosponsors of S. 692, a bill to prohibit Internet gambling, and for other purposes.

S. 693

At the request of Mr. HELMS, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 693, a bill to assist in the enhancement of the security of Taiwan, and for other purposes.

S. 706

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 706, a bill to create a National Museum of Women's History Advisory Committee.

SENATE RESOLUTION 19

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 19, A resolution to express the sense of the Senate that the Federal investment in biomedical research should be increased by \$2,000,000,000 in fiscal year 2000.

SENATE RESOLUTION 26

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 26, a resolution relating to Taiwan's Participation in the World Health Organization.

AMENDMENT NO. 154

At the request of Mr. CONRAD his name was added as a cosponsor of Amendment No. 154 proposed to S. Con. Res. 20, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal years 2000 through 2009.

AMENDMENT NO. 167

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 167 proposed to S. Con. Res. 20, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal years 2000 through 2009.

AMENDMENT NO. 172

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI), and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 172 proposed to S. Con. Res. 20, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal years 2000 through 2009.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 23—PROVIDING FOR A CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. LOTT submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 23

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That when the Senate recesses or adjourns at the close of business on Thursday, March 25, 1999, Friday, March 26, 1999, Saturday, March 27, 1999, or Sunday, March 28, 1999, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Monday, April 12, 1999, or until such time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Thursday, March 25, 1999, or Friday, March 26, 1999, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 12:30 p.m. on Monday, April 12, 1999, for morning-hour debate, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Majority Leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, acting jointly